

What is Claimed Is:

1. An air bag device for a motorbike, the air bag device comprising:
an air bag for being deployed and inflated in a predetermined driver protection area forwardly of the driver of the motorbike in the event of a motorbike frontal collision;
a holder for the air bag; and
a portion of the air bag for being mounted to the motorbike generally adjacent the predetermined driver protection area and outside the holder to minimize interference with the motorbike as the air bag is deployed and inflated in the predetermined driver protection area.
2. The air bag device of claim 1 wherein the air bag includes another portion that is contained in the holder that is inflated prior to the portion outside the holder upon air bag deployment.
3. The air bag device of claim 1 wherein the air bag includes another portion that is contained in the holder, with the air bag portions being folded differently from each other.
4. The air bag device of claim 1 including fasteners for securing the air bag portion to the motorbike to minimize shifting thereof with impact of the driver thereagainst.
5. The air bag device of claim 1 wherein the air bag portion is folded to have a generally elongate configuration extending across the motorbike to substantially ensure air bag deployment and inflation in the predetermined driver protection area adjacent thereto.
6. The air bag device of claim 1 wherein the air bag portion includes a cover separate and spaced from the holder that opens upon air bag deployment.
7. The air bag device of claim 6 wherein the cover includes a thin material protective cloth and a cover member having a frangible portion thereof.
8. The air bag device of claim 6 wherein the cover is configured to generally match that of a handlebar to which the air bag portion is mounted.

9. The air bag device of claim 1 wherein the holder comprises a retainer that contains another portion of the air bag with the air bag portion outside the retainer allowing the retainer to be minimized in size.
10. The air bag device of claim 1 in combination with the motorbike with the motorbike including a handlebar to which the air bag portion is mounted.
11. A motorbike including an air bag device, the motorbike comprising:
 - a body;
 - a seat for a driver;
 - an air bag for being deployed and inflated in a predetermined driver protection area forwardly of the seat in the event of a motorbike frontal collision;
 - a retainer for the air bag; and
 - a portion of the air bag disposed outside the retainer that is mountable to the body generally adjacent the driver protection area so as to be reliably deployed and inflated therein.
12. The motorbike of claim 11 wherein the body includes a handlebar to which the air bag portion is mounted so that interference therewith upon air bag deployment and inflation is kept to a minimum.
13. The motorbike of claim 12 wherein the handlebar has an elongate configuration with the airbag portion mounted to extend therealong.
14. The motorbike of claim 12 wherein the handlebar includes a top surface portion with the air bag portion mounted to the handlebar top surface portion.
15. The motorbike of claim 11 wherein the body has a side region thereof forwardly of the seat with the air bag portion mounted to the body forward side region.
16. The motorbike of claim 11 wherein the retainer is sized to store the entire air bag therein with the air bag portion drawn out therefrom for mounting to the body.

17. The motorbike of claim 11 wherein the retainer is sized to contain another portion of the air bag therein with the air bag portion to be mounted to the body remaining outside the retainer to allow the retainer to be minimized in size.